

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image generating apparatus, comprising:

display image generating means for generating display image
5 data to be displayed on a screen based on information on at least
one three-dimensional object disposed in a three-dimensional space
and information on a viewpoint position;

image area identification data storage means for storing image
area identification data that, of said display image data, specifically
10 identifies an image area corresponding to said three-dimensional
object; and

image processing means for applying image defocusing processing
at least locally to said display image data based on said image area
identification data.

15

2. An image generating apparatus, comprising:

display image generating means for generating display image
data to be displayed on a screen based on information on at least
one three-dimensional object disposed in a three-dimensional space
20 and information on a viewpoint position;

elemental image generating means for generating elemental image
data that is applied to a surface forming said three-dimensional object
and that draws at least one elemental image in an image area
corresponding to said surface forming said three-dimensional object;

25 synthesizing means for generating synthesized display image
data to be displayed on said screen by synthesizing said generated
elemental image data with the display image data generated based on

said information on the three-dimensional object; and
 image processing means for applying image defocusing processing
at least locally to said synthesized display image data.

5 3. The image generating apparatus according to claim 2, further
including:

storage means for storing original texture map image data to
be applied to said surface forming said three-dimensional object,
wherein

10 said display image generating means generates the display image
data, when generating the display image data, by applying the original
texture map image data stored in said storage means to the surface
forming the three-dimensional object.

15 4. The image generating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein
said original texture map image data includes synthesizing area
identification information for identifying an area, on which image
data different from the original texture image can be synthesized,
and

20 said elemental image generating means determines a drawing
position of the elemental image based on the synthesizing area
identification information of said original texture map image data.

25 5. The image generating apparatus according to claim 3 or 4,
wherein

 said elemental image data includes synthesizing area
identification information that identifies an area, in which image

data different from the elemental image can be synthesized,
said image processing means determines at least one portion,
to which the image defocusing processing is applied, based on the
synthesizing area identification information included in each of said
5 elemental image data and said original texture map image data, and
applies the image defocusing processing to said portion determined.

6. The image generating apparatus according to any one of claims
2 to 5, wherein

10 said elemental image data or said portion, to which image
defocusing processing is applied, is changed with time.

7. An image generating method using a computer, comprising:
a display image generating step for generating a display image
15 to be displayed on a screen based on information on at least one
three-dimensional object disposed in a three-dimensional space and
information on a viewpoint position;

an image area identification data storage step for storing image
area identification data that, of said display image, specifically
20 identifies an image area corresponding to said three-dimensional
object; and

an image processing step for applying image defocusing
processing at least locally to said display image based on said image
area identification data.

25

8. A computer-readable medium for use in a computer and storing
a program for executing:

a display image generating step for generating a display image to be displayed on a screen based on information on at least one three-dimensional object disposed in a three-dimensional space and information on a viewpoint position;

5 an image area identification data storage step for storing image area identification data that, of said display image, specifically identifies an image area corresponding to said three-dimensional object; and

10 an image processing step for applying image defocusing processing at least locally to said display image based on said image area identification data.

9. Display image data to be generated in accordance with the image generating method as claimed in claim 7.